THE BLACK VORTEX
CHAPTER 3
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PETER GETS PERSONAL! PAGE 34!

DREAMY DRAX! FIND OUT WHAT MAKES HIM TICK!

HOW TO GET PETER TO VISIT YOUR PLANET! PAGE 20!

WHO IS KITTY PRYDE?

OH, JUST THE LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE GALAXY! PAGE 12!

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PLUS ROCKET, GROOT, CONTESTS & MORE!

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GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 3

Previously in the Black Vortex…

Billions of years ago, an ancient race named the Viscardi were gifted an object of immense cosmic power by a Celestial. This artifact, known as the Black Vortex, transformed the user, imbuing them with cosmic energy. However, the power of this object caused the Viscardi to turn on each other, annihilating their own race from within.

In the present, Peter Quill has recently discovered that the evil Mister Knife is actually his father, J-Son, the deposed Emperor of Spartax. Infiltrating Knife's fortress, Peter and Kitty Pryde found that Knife had recovered the Black Vortex, which he used to enhance his henchmen. Fearful of the objects power, Peter and Kitty stole the Black Vortex and recruited the Guardians of the Galaxy and the X-Men to help battle Mister Knife. But as the group argued over the artifact, Knife's Slaughter Lords attacked. Attempting to save her friends, Gamora used the Black Vortex, but her new powers were not enough to overcome Knife's minions. To escape their pursuers, Storm had Magik teleport the group to Spartax's moon.

In the confusion that followed, the elder Beast used the Black Vortex as well, imbuing himself with cosmic power. As their argument intensified, the group was interrupted by the arrival of Sam Alexander, the young Nova, who was responding to Peter's distress call. But their conversation was cut short, as Gamora ensnared the heroes by bringing them face-to-face with the Black Vortex--and their cosmic potential!

SAM HUMPHRIES WRITER

PACO MEDINA PENCILS

JUAN VLASCO INKS

DAVID CURIEL COLORIST

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERER

PACO MEDINA COVER ARTIST

XANDER JAROWEY ASSISTANT EDITOR

MIKE MARTS EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF **JOE QUESADA** CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER **ALAN FINE** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

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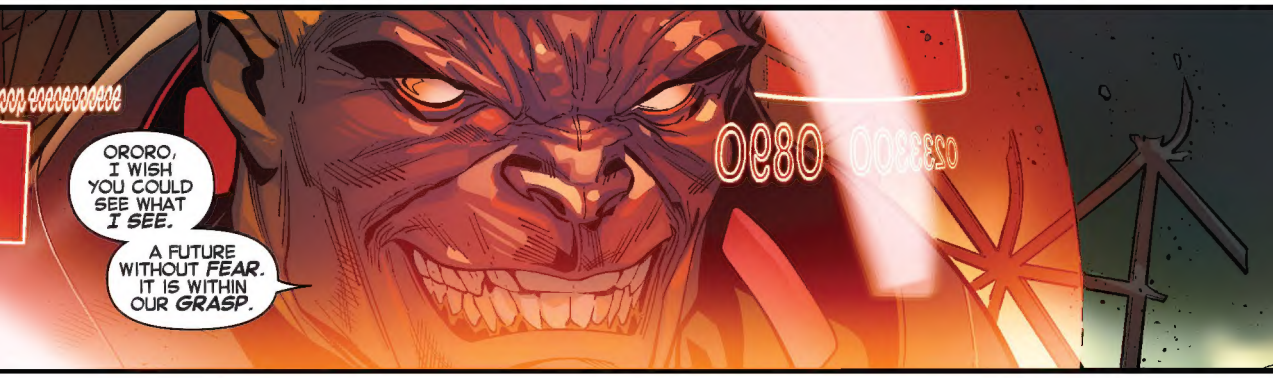
THIS IS THE FUTURE!
STEP FORWARD AND EMBRACE YOUR TRUTH.
SUBMIT TO THE
BLACK VORTEX

UM, NO?
YOU GUYS DON'T LOOK ALL THAT GREAT.
I AM GROOT!
HANK, PLEASE CONSIDER THE DREADFUL NATURE OF WHAT YOU ARE SUGGESTING.
BEFORE I FRY YOU BALD.


ORORO, I WISH YOU COULD SEE WHAT I SEE.
A FUTURE WITHOUT FEAR. IT IS WITHIN OUR GRASP.

LAURA! ARE YOU OKAY?!
NNNFF-- BRAIN FEELS LIKE A SMUSHED BURRITO...
FREAKY BEAST CAN'T DO THAT TO ONE OF US!
CAN HE, HANK?
I THOUGHT SEEING MY FUTURE SELF COVERED IN FUR WAS WEIRD ENOUGH...
GUYS, STAND DOWN! WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH HERE--

DID YOU SEE THAT? WHEN GAMORA FLASHED THE BLACK VORTEX AT US?
WARREN?
WAS THAT REAL, OR--?
PROFESSOR K!
OH MY GOD.
IS THAT REALLY ME...?
WARREN! NO!
STOP HIM!
STOP WHAT? WHO?
YEAH! THAT DOES LOOK PRETTY GOOD.
I'M IN.
I SUBMIT TO THE BLACK VORTYEEEAA
AAUGH-!
ZZZCK

WHOA.
AWESOME.

HEY.
COOL.
EVERYONE STOP!
NO!
WHAT THE FLARK IS GOING ON BACK THERE?
WARREN. HOW DO YOU FEEL?
I NEVER KNEW HOW TRAPPED I WAS.
FINALLY. I AM FREE.

HANK, STOP THIS!
IT CANNOT BE STOPPED.
WARREN? ARE YOU--?
LAURA. IT'S LIKE I'M SEEING YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME.
BUT--
ALL OUR LIVES BACK ON EARTH. OUR LITTLE WORRIES...
...SO INSIGNIFICANT.
TRUE MAGNIFICENCE LIES IN THE COSMOS!
C'MERE, BLACK VORTEX. SHOW BOBBY DRAKE SOMETHIN' COOL--
OH.
IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH. WE WILL REMAKE THE UNIVERSE IN OUR IMAGE!
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE UNIVERSE, I'M TALKING ABOUT WARREN!
YOUR ARGUMENTS ARE IRRELEVANT. THEY COME FROM A STATE OF IGNORANCE. YOU ARE LIKE A HUMAN ARGUING AGAINST MUTANTKIND.
IF YOU WANT TO GAMBLE WITH THIS, FINE. BUT HE'S JUST A KID! WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW THIS IS GONNA AFFECT--
HELL YEAH, I SUBMIT!

NO!
HEY!
ROCKET, GET IN YOUR SHIP AND MEET ME ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON IN FIVE MINUTES.
ARE YOU ASKING ME ON A DATE?
BE READY TO FLY FAST.
BACK AWAY FROM THE VORTEX, OSCAR THE GROUCH!
I HAVE NOT YET BEGUN TO UNLEASH THE GROUCH!
REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS YOUR JOB TO PROTECT THESE KIDS, HANK?
OUR JOB IS TO REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL. DO NOT INTERFERE, KATHERINE, OR--
WAIT, WHERE IS THE BLACK VORTEX?
SURPRISE, KRUTAKER!

THE FLYING FORTRESS. NEARBY.
BOSS? WE'RE SCOURING THE PLANET'S SURFACE. CAN'T FIND 'EM ANYWHERE.
THE BLACK VORTEX, NEITHER.
FIND THEM.
YOU SLEEPIN', BOSS? OR ARE YOU--
I HEARD YOU. NOW GET BACK OUT THERE AND--
KNIFE! MAYBE I SHOULD ASK THE STAR-LORD FOR THE POWER YOU PROMISED ME!
DO YOU NEED YOUR BASTARD SON TO MAKE GOOD ON YOUR WORD?
BRING ME THE BLACK VORTEX OR I'LL--

HSSSSSS
BOTH OF YOU! LISTEN TO ME.
THANE, YOU WILL HAVE YOUR POWER.
BROOD, YOUR QUEEN WILL HAVE WHAT SHE WANTS.
I STAKE MY LIFE ON IT.
WE WILL FIND THEM!
I AM TIRED OF PROMISES, KNIFE.
I WANT THE BLACK VORTEX.
SHOULD I GET BACK OUT THERE LOOKIN' FOR--
FATHER DIABLO, GO TO BRENNAN-7. TAKE CARE OF THAT THING WE TALKED ABOUT.
NO SURVIVORS.
IF YOU SAY SO, BOSS--
BOSS!
WE GOT THEM.
THEY WERE ON THE MOON THE WHOLE TIME.
CZAR! ABOUT TIME. TURN THIS DRAGON AROUND--

"--LET'S PAY THEM A VISIT."
AIR SO THIN HERE--
--RESTED ALL OUR HOPES ON AN OBNOXIOUS RACCOON.
I THINK I CAN HEAR LOGAN LAUGHING AT ME--
THAK
WHAT--?!
WHOMP
NO!
STAY DOWN.
THE BLACK VORTEX BELONGS TO THE WHOLE GALAXY!
I AM TRYING TO PROTECT THE GALAXY.

YOU COULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST!
KRSSSSH
THE PROGENITOR OF A NEW ERA.
YET YOU REJECTED THE VORTEX!
THAT WAS ILL-ADVISED.
GAMORA--
--THIS IS NOT MY FIRST SWORD FIGHT!
SKREEEE

STRIKE ME THEN--
--IF YOU CAN FIND ME.
HOW--?!
YAAAH--!
ENOUGH!
KZZZAKT
FOOL!
THWAK
YOU THINK LIGHTNING CAN HURT ME?
DAUGHTER. HALT.

GIVE ME THE BLACK VORTEX.
NOW.
THANOS? FATHER?
NO! NOT NOW--!
GAMORA!
LOOK AGAIN!

--JEAN IS MANIPULATING YOUR MIND.
UH-OH.
DRAX! WHAT ELSE IS SHE AFRAID OF?!
NOTHING!
HOW DARE YOU?!
I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT!

STOP--
OMG.
WHAT IS THIS...?

BACK AWAY FROM MY STUDENT.
DRAX!
NOW, EARTH GIRL!
ROGER!
KRAK
GAMORA--
--CONTROL YOURSELF!
THOOM

DRAX--
--SAY HI TO RICHARD RYDER FOR ME!
STOP! GAMORA!
THE BLACK VORTEX IS OURS. THERE'S NOTHING WE NEED HERE.
WRONG. YOU NEED A GOOD BUTT-WHUPPIN', BIGFOOT. AND I'M JUST THE GUY TO GIVE IT TO YOU!
OH, AND ALL MY FRIENDS, TOO.
YOU? ALL I SEE IS WASTED POTENTIAL.
COME ON, LET'S GO. GLORY AWAITS US!
WE CANNOT BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THOSE WHO REFUSE ENLIGHTENMENT.
WE ARE HERALDS OF A NEW DAWN--

FWOOSH
--STAY OUT OF OUR WAY.
THOSE WERE YOUR FRIENDS?
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
I AM GROOT?
THERE GOES THREE GRADE-A FLARKNARDS.
THEY TOOK THE VORTEX!
SHOOT.
YOU! MAGIK! TELEPORT US AFTER THEM!
IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT, LOVERBOY. I NEED A LOCATION.
ROCKET, CAN WE CATCH THEM?
THOSE KRUTAKERS ARE LONG GONE! DID YOU SEE HOW FLARKIN' FAST THEY--
CAROL?!
THEY'RE BEYOND MY TOP SPEED.
THIS WENT DOWNHILL FAST.
I CAN'T SENSE THEIR THOUGHTS ANYMORE.
HEY-- GOOD WORK, HOTSHOT.
HUH?
WE HAD A CHANCE TO DESTROY IT AND WE BLEW IT!
WE DIDN'T BLOW ANYTHING--
WARREN IS GONE! YOUR FRIEND ALMOST KILLED JEAN! THESE ARE MY STUDENTS, PETER! I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM!

WE'LL FIND A WAY TO--
DIDN'T YOU THINK ABOUT THAT? NOW MAYBE THE WHOLE GALAXY IS SCREWED!
ALL BECAUSE YOU SAW A MAGIC SHORTCUT AND IGNORED THE CONSEQUENCES. WHO DOES THAT?
I HATE TO INTERRUPT A GOOD LOVERS QUARREL, BUT--PLEASE TELL ME THAT THING IS ON OUR SIDE?
HEADS UP, GUYS!
WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU?
UNFORTUNATELY, BOBBY...
...NO, IT'S NOT.
FIRE.

FWAAASSSSSH
TO BE CONTINUED IN
BLACK VORTEX CHAPTER 4:
ALL-NEW X-MEN #38!

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 3

FOLLOW THE SAGA OF THE BLACK VORTEX IN

ALL-NEW X-MEN #38

ON-SALE
FEBRUARY

~~THE BLACK VORTEX ALPHA #1~~

~~GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #24~~

LEGENDARY STAR-LORD #9

ALL-NEW X-MEN #38

ON-SALE
MARCH

ALL-NEW X-MEN #39

GUARDIANS TEAM-UP #3

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #25

NOVA #28

LEGENDARY STAR-LORD #10

ON-SALE
APRIL

CYCLOPS #12

CAPTAIN MARVEL #14

LEGENDARY STAR-LORD #11

THE BLACK VORTEX OMEGA #1